NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

Notice is given that the Alaska Board of Game, under the authority of Title 16, Alaska Statutes, proposes to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code which implement, interpret or make specific the provisions of Title 16.

The Board of Game may adopt, amend, repeal, or take no action on the subject matters listed below. Regulations to be the subject of board action concern the use or taking of game and include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. HUNTING AND TRAPPING SEASONS, AND BAG LIMITS, including: Statewide trapping seasons, bag limits for sea ducks in Unit 15, and customary and traditional uses of game populations.
- B. METHODS AND MEANS AND HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS including: Restricting off-road vehicle use related to hunting, hunting activities, and transporting of game; hunter education and orientation requirements including hunting with a crossbow; special provisions for disabled individuals; and authorization for disability exemptions.
- C. POSSESSION, TRANSPORTATION, AND USE OF GAME including: Restrictions to bag limit; brown bear tag fees; sealing of bear skins and skulls; sealing of Dall sheep horns and furbearer hides; salvage requirements for game meat, furs, and hides; purchase and sale of game including big game trophies, bear hides, and bear gall bladders.
- D. LICENSES, HARVEST TICKETS, HARVEST REPORTS, TAGS, FEES, AND PERMITS including: Harvest tickets and reports including deer and black bear; inspection requirements for licenses, harvest tickets, and permits; harvest tickets for youth; harvest tickets, including possession and reporting procedures; taking of game by proxy; permits for taking big game for certain religious and cultural ceremonies; permit conditions for use of radio-telemetry equipment; restrictions to hunting bear with the use of bait or scent lures; permits for selling skins, skulls, and trophies; and permits for possessing live game including certain felines, monkeys, birds, and others animals.
- E. INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT AND PREDATOR CONTROL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS including: Special provisions for predator control plans; predation control area implementation plans including Units 15, 9, and 16; identified big game prey populations and objectives; methods for taking predators including with the use of cable snares, bait stations, and aerial permits; access to bait stations by helicopters; and restricting nonresident hunting in intensive management areas.
- F. GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS: Description of Game Management Units including: Units 6, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, and 21, and 25.
- G. REGULATORY DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS including: Policy for changing the board agenda; and regulatory definitions including: "full curl ram", "crossbow," "edible meat," and the removal of snowy owl from the "unclassified game" definition;

You may comment on the proposed regulations, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes by submitting written comments to the Alaska Board of Game,

Boards Support Section at P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526. Comments may also be submitted by fax to (907) 465-6094.

Written comments may be submitted to the Board of Game at any time before the proposal is taken up by the board in deliberations, but as a practical matter, written comments should be submitted to the Boards Support Section office at the above address or fax number by **5:00 pm Friday, January 15, 2010** to ensure inclusion in the board workbooks. Written comment over 100 single sided or 50 double sided pages in length from any one individual or group relating to proposals will not be accepted. Written comments submitted after January 15, 2010 will be limited to 10 single sided or 5 double sided pages in length from any one individual or group. Written comments that are submitted are public record and are subject to public inspection.

The public hearing portion of the meeting will begin immediately after staff reports and continue until everyone who has signed up and is present when called has been given the opportunity to be heard. The deadline to sign up to testify will be announced at the meeting. Additional public hearings may be held throughout the meeting just before consideration and adoption of proposed changes in the regulations. An agenda will be posted daily during the meeting. The board will take oral testimony only from those who register before the cut-off time. The length of oral statements may be limited to three to five minutes, or less.

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE
Statewide Regulations, Cycle A
January 29 – February 1, 2010
Egan Convention Center
555 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska

A live audio stream of the Board meeting is intended to be available on the Boards Support Section website at: http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us. Any changes to meeting locations, dates or times, or rescheduling of topics or subject matter will be announced by news release. Please watch for these announcements in the news media or call (907) 465-4110.

If you are a person with a disability who may need special accommodations in order to participate in this process, please contact Scott Crass at (907) 465-4110 no later than January 15, 2010 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

For a copy of the proposed regulation changes, contact the Boards Support Section the above address, or at http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/gameinfo/index.php.

Anyone interested in or affected by subsistence and general hunting or trapping regulations is hereby informed that, by publishing this legal notice the Board of Game may consider any or all of the subject areas covered by this notice. **THE BOARD IS NOT LIMITED BY THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE OR CONFINES OF THE ACTUAL PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC OR STAFF**. Pursuant to AS 44.62.200, the board may review the full range of activities appropriate to any of the subjects listed in this notice. The board may make changes to the hunting and trapping regulations as may be required to ensure the subsistence priority in AS 16.05.258 including reexamining customary and traditional use findings and determinations for amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence use.

After the public hearing, the Board of Game may adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or amend, reject, supplement, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. You should comment during the time allowed if your interest could be affected.

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05.255; AS 16.05.258; AS 16.05.270

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 16.05.255; AS 16.05.256; AS 16.05.258; AS 16.05.407; AS 16.05.346; AS 16.05.340; AS 16.30.010 – .030; AS 16.05.330, and AS 16.05.783

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: <u>December 22, 2009</u>

Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director

Alaska Board of Game

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS NOTICE INFORMATION (AS 44.62.190(d))

1.	Adopting agency: <u>Alaska Board of Game</u>
2.	General subject of regulation: Statewide Regulations, Cycle A
3.	Citation of regulations: <u>5 AAC 84, 85, 92, 98, and 99</u>
4.	Reason for the proposed action: () compliance with federal law () compliance with new or changed state statute () compliance with court order () development of program standards (X) other: Regularly scheduled topics for the Statewide 2010 2009 Board of Game meeting Implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of AS 16.05– AS 16.30
5.	Program category and RDU: Natural Resources and all RDUs
	Cost of implementation to the state agency and available funding: It is not possible to estimate cost owever, this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.
7.	The name of the contact person for the regulations:
	Name: Kristy Tibbles Title: Executive Director, Boards Game Address: Boards Support Section Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 Telephone: (907) 465-4110
8.	The origin of the proposed action:
9.	X staff of state agencyX_ federal governmentX_ general public petition for regulation change other (please list) Date: December 22, 2009 Prepared by: Kristy Tibbles
	Executive Director, Board of Game